



PIRC Vermont

Family Friendly Walkthrough

School: _____

Date of Walkthrough: _____

PIRC Vermont staff: _____

Item being rated:	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Standards	Approaching the Standard	Needs Improvement	Comments
A. Physical environment –					
1) There is parking for visitors & handicap access from parking area.					
2) The entrance to the building is inviting and there are directions visible to explain how to get around the building.					
3) The office is located near the school entrance and is clearly marked for visitors.					
4) The office staff is friendly; they answer the phone in a polite manner, immediately recognize visitors and make everyone feel welcome.					
5) There is a parent resource room or comfortable area available where parents can borrow books, educational materials and resources.					
6) The school has parent mentors who provide tours, guidance and support to newly enrolled families.					
7) There are signs located outside each classroom door noting grade level/course title, teacher's name and picture of the teacher.					
8) Student work is displayed throughout the school. The work also includes a description of the purpose of the work and the standard that it meets.					
9) The school creates displays that reflect the families in the school community.					
10) The staff and administration believe that families and the community view the school as a "family friendly school"					

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B. School-wide policies & practices –					
1) School has a home-school compact tailored to your school & community; you use it in a number of ways throughout the school year.					
2) School has & shares a <u>school-level</u> family involvement policy. Parents helped create the document.					
3) Professional development for staff includes trainings/workshops on working with diverse families and parental involvement.					
4) The school has a Parent Coordinator or home-school liaison that helps to connect the families and the school.					
5) The school offers workshops for parents to help them understand the classroom curriculum and how they can help their children learn at home.					
6) The school offers a variety of opportunities for teachers and families to meet face-to-face, such as literacy nights, open house, parent conferences, class observations, etc.					
7) The school actively recruits and welcomes new families from all backgrounds for school committees such as the PTA/PTO.					
8) School personnel and families understand & appreciate the connection between parent involvement and student achievement.					
9) The school insures that teachers or other school personnel have personal contact with each family in the school on a regular basis.					
10) The school establishes a tone of respect for all families, regardless of culture, ethnicity, language or disability.					
11) The school seeks parents' ideas regarding parental involvement in the school.					

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12) The school integrates parent involvement into all aspects of the school culture.					
13) The school provides low literacy informational materials to parents in a format that is easily understood.					
14) The school is open and accessible for extended hours for families and the community.					
15) School offers a variety of means for helping parents/guardians to help their children to be successful in school.					
C. Home-School communication –					
1) The school has a system in place for ongoing assessment and feedback from parents regarding the school climate.					
2) Principal & staff invite parents to ask questions & express concerns; they respond to such communications in a two-way fashion.					
3) School informs families of policies, events, & opportunities via a variety of media – <i>e.g.</i> , newsletter, flyers, website, meetings, and volunteer phone tree.					
4) The school acknowledges that “parents know their child best” and recognizes parents as true partners in the education of their children.					
5) Written materials are easily readable, using simple language & sentences, & avoiding jargon. They are in languages spoken by families you serve.					
6) School & teachers inform families how they respond to family concerns and how to access help.					

General Comments, Quotes, Other:

All results will be confidential, and evaluation reports on the outcomes will not identify any individual response.

PIRC Vermont (Parent Information and Resource Center)
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**A Project of the
Vermont Family
Network.**

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